

REMARKS

This Preliminary Amendment is being filed to identify this application as a continuation of co-pending Application Serial No. 09/123,145, filed on July 27, 1998. Upon entry of this paper, the specification will have been amended, claims 1, 13, 25, and 36-38 will have been amended, and claims 8, 20 and 31 will have been canceled. Claims 40-53 will have been added. Claims 1-7, 9-19, 21-30 and 32-53 will be all the claims under examination in the present application. Entry and consideration of this Preliminary Amendment is respectfully requested.

AUTHORIZATION

A check for \$1,878.00 is enclosed to cover the requisite fees for filing of the continuation. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required for the timely consideration of this paper under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 and 1.17, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-4503, Order No. 1232-4458US1.

Respectfully submitted,
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Dated: 07/22/03

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